

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A molded rubber sheet structure for use in a process for the production of slabs, consisting of:

a first layer of previously cured rubber forming a first outwardly directed surface and a second layer of previously cured rubber, the first and second layers of rubber having the same structure as regards the homogeneity of heat transfer.

a first layer of non-deformable cloth or fabric interposed between said first and second layers of rubber, and

a second layer of cloth of non-deformable material provided on said second layer of rubber and forming a base of the molded rubber sheet, which second layer of cloth thereby constitutes a second outwardly directed surface of the molded rubber sheet,

said molded rubber sheet being dimensionally stabilized by subjected to a final dimensional stabilization treatment consisting of heating to a temperature in the region of 160°C; and

the first and second layers of rubber have the same structure as regards the homogeneity of heat transfer.

2. (previously presented) A molded rubber sheet structure according to Claim 1, wherein said rubber is one of ethylene and propylene copolymers or fluorocarbon rubbers or polyurethane rubbers.

3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) A molded rubber sheet structure according to Claim 1, wherein said first and second cloths are formed by a polyester warp and a nylon weft.

09/808.160
11174457.01

- 2 -

5. (currently amended) A molded rubber sheet structure according to Claim 1, wherein said stabilization treatment heating to a temperature in the region of 160°C is performed for 1-3 hours.
6. (currently amended) A molded rubber sheet structure according to Claim 1, wherein said molded rubber sheet structure consists of a finite length removable sheet, not in the form of a continuous belt, for use in the process for the production of slab, wherein said sheet is initially attached to a slab and is then subsequently removed therefrom: flat basis and an inclined peripheral border so as to constitute a cavity into which a mixture is deposited to undergo the process for the production of a slab.
7. (new) A molded rubber sheet structure according to Claim 1, wherein the rubber sheets are cured by means of a peroxide using a vulcanization method.